

VZCZCXRO2658
OO RUEHCN RUEHGH RUEHVC
DE RUEHBJ #3007 2171125
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 041125Z AUG 08
FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8969
INFO RUEHOO/CHINA POSTS COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
RHHNSC/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIJING 003007

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/04/2033
TAGS: [PREL](#) [KOLY](#) [PGOV](#) [CH](#)
SUBJECT: VFM ZHANG YESUI CALLS AUGUST 4 KASHGAR "TERRORIST
ATTACK" RARE AND TRAGIC

REF: BEIJING 3002

Classified By: Ambassador Clark T. Randt, Jr. Reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

11. (C) Vice Foreign Minister Zhang Yesui called the August 4 "terrorist attack" in Kashgar, Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (reftel), "rare and tragic" during an August 4 meeting with the Ambassador (other topics reported septels). According to VFM Zhang, at 08:00 on August 4, a truck with two "terrorists" on board "rammed into" a group of Chinese armed border police that had been conducting drills, killing 16 and wounding another 16. Previously, China had believed that terrorism was "far away." In recent years, however, terrorism has gotten "closer and closer" to China, VFM Zhang said.

12. (C) The Ambassador conveyed to VFM Zhang his condolences for the families of those killed and injured in the attack. VFM Zhang, noting that those killed today were "extremely young," closed by stating that security remains China's top concern regarding the Olympics, so as to ensure a "safe and smooth" Games for all.
RANDT